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Ametabola and Metabola is convenient, but it accords too high a rank to an adaptive feature. Complete metamorphosis is but a comparatively recent introduction in the life of insects, and with it as a basis forms closely allied in structure are necessarily widely divorced. Again, in our opinion, the Orthoptera are clearly lower than the Pseudoneuroptera, a view which is not negatived by palæontological evidence nor by embryology.

We notice a few slips which can readily be corrected in the promised introduction. On the first page the author writes "Vermes" where he clearly means "Annelida," and the unnatural group of Tracheata is referred to on the same page. On the seventh page chitine is stated to be deposited "in" the body-wall. On the eighth page it is stated that the eyes may possibly be modified legs, a view which is completely negatived by embryology. On the twenty-third page the sting of certain insects should have been stated to be a modified ovipositor. Perhaps the greatest omission of all is the absence of any account of the embryology of Hexapoda. Still these, with the exception of the last, are minor points, and this exception we hope to see rectified before the volume is completed. As a whole, the work is of great value. The illustrations and descriptions will make it a true guide to the young student of insects, the accounts of noxious insects will aid the agriculturist and horticulturist, and we venture the prediction that it will be the most often referred to of any book on the shelves of the working entomologist.

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## RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Abstracts of the Proceedings of the London Geological Society. No. 515.

*Agassiz, Alexander.*—Annual Report for 1885–86 of the Curator of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College. From the author.

*Allen, Harrison.*—On the Methods of Study of the Crowns of Human Teeth, Including their Variations. Reprint from the Dental Cosmos for June, 1888. From the author.

*Auld, R. C.*—Breeding the Black-Skins. Reprint from the Breeder's Gazette, March, 1888. From the author.

*Bean, Tarleton H.*—Report on Fishes Observed in Great Egg Harbor. Extract from Bulletin of U. S. Fish Commission, 1887. From the author.

*Bodington, Alice.*—Micro-Organisms as Parasites. Reprint from the Journal of Microscopy and Natural Science. From the author.

*Boulenger, G. A.*—Description of a New Snake (*Sytorhynchus ridgewayi*) from Afghanistan. Ext. from Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Dec., 1887.—On the Affinity of the North-American Lizard Fauna. Reprint from the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Nov., 1887. From the author.

*Brown, Henry H.*—Alatypes or Stenotypography. From the publisher.

- Dame, L. L., and Collins, F. S.*—Flora of Middlesex County, Mass. From the authors.
- Dickerson, Edward N.*—The Telephone Appeals.
- Du Bois, A. J.*—Science and the Spiritual. Reprint from the New Englander and Yale Review for May, 1887. From the author.
- Dugès, A.*—Erpetologia del Valle de Mexico. From the author.
- Dulles, Charles W.*—Report on Hydrophobia. Reprint from Transactions of Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, 1888. From the author.
- Emmons, Samuel F.*—Atlas to Accompany a Monograph on the Geology and Mining Industry of Colorado. From the U. S. Geological Survey.
- Everman, Barton W., and Jenkins, Oliver P.*—Notes on Indiana Fishes. Proceedings of U. S. National Museum, 1888. From the author.
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- Gilbert, C. K.*—Statistics of the Philosophical Society of Washington, from its Foundation. From the author.
- Gray, Asa.*—Synoptical Flora of North America. The Gamopetalæ. From the Smithsonian Institution.
- Günther, Albert.*—Report of the Challenger Expedition, Vol. XXII., Zoology. From the author.
- Hampden, John.*—Letter to Professor Huxley. Letter to Canon Driver, 1886. Letter to the Presidents of Literary, Philosophical, or Christian Institutions. From the publishers.
- Herrick, C. L.*—Bulletin of the Scientific Laboratories of Denison University, Vol. III. From the author.
- Higley, W. K.*—Reptilia and Batrachia of Wisconsin. Reprint from Transactions of Wis. Acad. of Sciences, Arts, and Letters. Vol. VII. From the author.
- Hutton, F. W.*—Notes on the Mueller Glacier, New Zealand. From Vol. III. (2d Series) of the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales. (May 31, 1888.) From the author.
- Hill, Robert T.*—Notes on Geology of Western Texas. Reprint from Texas Geological and Scientific Bulletin. From the author.
- James, U. P., and James, Joseph F.*—On the Multiculioporoid Corals of the Cincinnati Group, with a Critical Review of the Species. Reprint from the Journal of the Cin. Soc. Nat. Hist., Jan., 1888. From the author.
- Jordan, David Starr.*—A Brief Account of the Darwinian Theory of the Origin of Species. From the author.
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*Newton, Alfred.*—Early Days of Darwinism. Reprint from Macmillan's Magazine, 1888. From the author.

*Prosser, Charles S.*—The Section of the Morrisville Well. The Upper Hamilton of Chenango and Otsego Counties, New York. Reprint from Proceedings of A. A. S., Vol. XXXIV.

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*Riley, C. V.*—On the Luminous Larviform Females in the Phengodini. Reprint from Report of British Ass., 1887. From the author.

*Scott, W. B., and Osborn, Henry F.*—Preliminary Report on the Vertebrate Fossils of the Uinta Formation, collected by the Princeton Ex. of 1886. Read before the Philosophical Society, Sept. 2, 1887. From the authors.

*Scribner, F. Lamson.*—Report on the Experiments Made in 1887 in the Treatment of the Downy Mildew and the Blackrot of the Grape-Vine. From the Department of Agriculture.

*Sedgwick, W. T., and Bartlett, S. R.*—A Biological Examination of the Water Supply of Newton, Mass. Read before the Society of Arts, Jan. 12, 1888.

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*Whiteaves, J. F.*—On some Fossils from the Hamilton Formation of Ontario, with a list of the species at present known from that formation and Province. Reprint from Canada Geol. Survey. From the author.

*Winchell, Alexander.*—Some Effect of Pressure of a Continental Glacier. Reprint from the American Geologist, March, 1888. From the author.

*Winchell, Alexander.*—The Taconic Question. Reprint from the Am. Geol., June, 1888. From the author.

*Winchell, Alexander.*—Ignatius Donnelly's Comet. Reprint from the Forum, Sept., 1887.

*Woodward, A. Smith.*—Note on the Occurrence of a Species of *Onychodus* in the Lower Old Red Sandstone Passage Beds of Ledbury, Herefordshire. On the Cretaceous Selachian Genus *Synechodus*. Extracts from Geol. Mag., Vol. V., No. 11, 1888. From the author.

Yorkshire Philosophical Society. Annual Report for 1887.